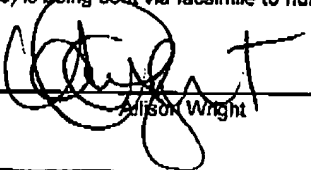


<p align="center">CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION</p> <p>I hereby certify that on November 19, 2001, this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being sent via facsimile to number 703-872-9302.</p> <p align="center"> Edison Wright</p>

PATENT

Applicant: **Epstein et al.**
Serial No.: **09/408,091**
Filed: **09/29/1999**
Title: **Improved Component
Mixing Catheter**
Examiner: **S. Kennedy**
Group Art Unit: **3763**
Atty Docket No.: **20450-37**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION AND ELECTION OF SPECIES

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed September 19, 2001, Applicants respond as follows:

Restriction Requirement

Applicants respectfully submit that examination of all pending claims is not unduly burdensome and can be easily performed given the relationship of the subject matter of these claims. In an effort to advance prosecution of the present invention, applicants elect to prosecute, with traverse, claims 1-7, 9-11, 14-16, and 18-19 drawn to an improved mixing catheter.

Election of Species

Applicants respectfully submit claim 1 presents a generic claim as required, and that examination of all pending claims is not unduly burdensome and can be easily performed given the relationship of the subject matter of these claims. In the interest of advancing prosecution of the present invention, applicant, with traverse, elects Species 2, as illustrated in Figures 4, 5, 6, 13, 14, and 15, for prosecution on the merits.


Applicant further identifies claims 1-7, 9-11, 14-16, and 18-19 as being readable on Species 2.

If the Examiner feels for any reason that direct contact with Applicant's attorney will advance the prosecution of this case to finality, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned Brian F. Swienton, Esq. at the number given below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 16-2230. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

November 19, 2001


Brian F. Swienton
Registration No. 49,030
Attorney for Applicant

OPPENHEIMER WOLFF & DONNELLY LLP
840 Newport Center Drive
Suite 700
Newport Beach, CA 92660
Telephone: (949) 823-6000
Facsimile: (949) 823-6100